


**Remarks:**

The present application was filed on January 16, 2004. With this Preliminary Amendment the Applicant proposes to amend the specification to correct recently noticed errors regarding certain mathematical expressions (equations 10, 11, and 12). More specifically, the term N/G is replaced in the text and equations simply by G. The claims are amended to recite more clearly, to correct punctuation errors, and to add indentations. Redundant claims have been cancelled. Specifically, claims 1, 4-7, 9, 11-12, 19-26, and 29-30 are amended; claims 10, 13-18, 27-28, and 31-40 are cancelled, and claims 41-52 are added herein that draw support from at least claims 1-12. No new matter is believed entered by this preliminary amendment.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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January 17, 2005  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Ann Okrentowich